



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
JOHN M. CURRAN

Application No.: 10/613,539

Filing Date: 07/03/03

FOR: IMPROVED SYSTEM AND METHOD  
FOR FACILITATING PIPE AND CONDUIT  
COUPLING

} PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
} IN RESPONSE TO  
} FORMALITIES LETTER  
} DATED 11/23/04  
} EXAMINER: UNKNOWN  
} Art Unit: 3679

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS

Dear Sir:

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P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

1/24/05

*Judy Enriquez*

In response to the formalities letter herein (true, complete, and correct copy of which is annexed hereto as Attachment 1), mailed 11/23/04, kindly enter the following Amendment.

-- In the Specification --

- A. -- Page 3, line 7, after "4(a) - 4" delete "(f)" and insert therefor -- (e) -- in the following illustrated manner ~~(f)~~ (e), such that as amended, line 7 reads as follows -- Figs. 4(a) - 4(e) are top views of forms of retention means in accordance with the invention. --
- B. -- Add Abstract of the Disclosure as follows: An improved system and method for facilitating pipe and conduit coupling comprises a clamp having at least one screw hole for insertion therethrough of at least one screw for insertion for a further clamp for being screwed to fasten the clamps together on ends of pipes to be coupled, at least one gasket